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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I have the Application of

Francis AMOAH

Group Art Unit: 3739

Application No.: 10/727,618

Examiner: R. ROLLINS

Filed: December 5, 2003

Docket No.: 114975

For: ELECTROSURGICAL METHOD AND APPARATUS

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the August 23, 2005, Office Action, please consider the following remarks.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 8-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Stern et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,755,715, (Stern). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Of the rejected claims, claims 1 and 6 are the independent claims. Claim 1 calls for, among other features, a controller controlling a generation means such that the temperature of the probe is ramped up to a first equilibration temperature of between 90° and 105°C, the temperature of the probe is held substantially constant at the equilibration temperature for a period of time to allow the temperature of different parts of the probe to equilibrate, and the temperature of the probe is then increased to and maintained at a final steady state temperature of between 100°C and 115°C.

Claim 6 is a method that calls for, in an initial ramp-phase, the temperature of the probe is raised rapidly to a first threshold temperature of between 90° and 105°C, in a second equilibrating phase, the temperature of the probe is held substantially constant for a period of time to allow the temperature of different parts of the probe to equilibrate, and in a subsequent treatment phase, the